GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1488
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2005
FILLING OF PITS AND AFFORESTATION OF MINED AREAS
Mahto Shri Tek Lal

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the mine-wise and company-wise details of the expenditure incurred in filling of the ditches and afforestation of mined areas;

(b) the total area of land on which the work of filling ditches and afforestation requires to be done; and

(c) the time by when the remaining work is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): The cost of filling of mine voids is included in the cost of production. No separate expenditure account is maintained for cost incurred in filling the voids of mines. However, company-wise details of expenditure for afforestation is as under:

Sl. No.	Company	Expenditure on afforestation (in Rs. Lakhs)
1	Eastern Coalfields Limited	530.08
2	Bharat Coking Coal Limited	104.50
3	Central Coalfields Limited	381.20
4	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	750.00
5	Northern Coalfields Limited	1322.79
6	South Eastern Coalfields Limited	4753.26
7	Western Coalfields Limited	443.53

(b) & (c): During the process of opencast mining, initially, certain amount of void is not filled up because of technical reasons like movement of men, machinery in the active areas. Whenever the mine advances, the other available void is back filled and afforestation is taken up on the reclaimed land. This is a continuous process. Some portion of excavated land remains unfilled in coal mines at the time of closure of the mines. These voids are generally converted into water bodies, which cater to the domestic and industrial use of nearby mines, colonies and villages.